



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: 02-18-04

Approved

Date

Council District: 7

SNI Area: Spartan/Keyes

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AND
ACCEPT A GRANT APPLICATION FOR COYOTE CREEK TRAIL, AND
NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR
PROPOSITION 40 FUNDS**

RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit and accept a grant application for Coyote Creek Trail, and negotiate and execute all necessary documents for Proposition 40 funds: The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002.

BACKGROUND

In January 2004, the City of San José was notified that a portion of Proposition 40 funds administered by the State Coastal Conservancy on behalf of the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council was targeted for projects that plan, acquire and construct new segments of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

The Bay Area Ridge Trail is a 400-mile multiple-use trail connecting parks and preserved open spaces along the ridgelines surrounding California's San Francisco Bay. More than half of the trail is completed and open to the public.

Within the San José area, the trail has two alignments. A *ridge alignment* traverses the Diablo Range and a *valley-floor alignment* follows portions of Penitencia Creek and Coyote Creek.

ANALYSIS

For submission of an application, the granting agency requires that the City provide a Council resolution that accomplishes the following:

- Authorizes submission of the application
- Acceptance of the grant if awarded
- Execution of the grant contract related documents
- Designation of the agency's authorized representative

The City would seek to process funding agreements with the granting agency by the fall of 2004 and complete the projects no later than February 2007.

As part of the program, the State Coastal Conservancy is allocating up to \$1,000,000 to fund projects that help complete the Bay Ridge Trail. In submitting grant applications, staff is aware that the funding source is relatively small and intended for distribution throughout the Bay Area. As a result, the proposed project scope and fund request is modest.

In San José, the only eligible alignments are along Penitencia Creek and portions of Coyote Creek. A review of trail development along these creeks assisted staff in determining potential projects. The following table provides the current status of trail development.

REACH NO.	LIMITS	CD	STATUS
Penitencia Creek			
1	Alum Rock Park to Noble Avenue	4	Preliminary study underway. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
2a	Noble Avenue to Percolation Pond #2	4	Plans under development, construction funds programmed. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
2b	Percolation Pond #2 to Piedmont Road	4	Plans under development, construction funds programmed. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.

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3	Piedmont Road to Viceroy Way (within park)	4	Complete, partially paved. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
4	Viceroy Way to Summerview Drive (COUNTY)	4	Complete, paved. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
5a	Summerview Dr to Capitol Ave (COUNTY)	4	Complete, paved. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
5b	Capitol Avenue to I-680 (COUNTY)	4	Complete, paved. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
5c	I-680 to Jackson Avenue	4	Complete, paved. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
6	Jackson Avenue to King Road	4	Master Plan complete. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.
7	King Road to Coyote Creek	4	Undeveloped. Final development impacted by pending Army Corps flood control.

Coyote Creek

B	Highway 101 to Williams Street	3	Feasibility Study underway.
Ba	Interstate 280 to Williams Street (Selma Olinder)	3	Construction plans under development. Construction is funded.
1a	Williams Street to UPRR	3	Feasibility Study underway.
1b	UPRR to Story Road	7	Feasibility Study underway.
2	Story Road to Phelan Avenue	7	Undeveloped.
3	Phelan Avenue to Tully Road	7	Master Plan underway.
4a	Tully Road to Stonegate Park	7	Master Plan underway.
4b	Stonegate Park to Capitol Expressway	7	Complete, paved.
5	Capitol Expressway to Yerba Buena Avenue	7 & 8	Complete, paved. Study underway to assess condition and define improvements.
6	Yerba Buena Avenue to Coyote Creek Park (COUNTY)	7 & 8	Completed, portions paved.

Penitencia Creek

Development of improvements along Penitencia Creek are impacted by the uncertainty of flood control improvements currently being considered by the Army Corps of Engineers. Planning for trail improvements in Reaches 1 and 2 are underway and Reach 6 has recently been completed.

Final improvements along the reaches of Penitencia Creek may be subject to change by the flood control project, so staff seeks to limit investment until the Army Corps' proposals are better developed. Staff tracks the Army Corps' efforts on a monthly basis through its participation in the Guadalupe Watershed Integrated Working Group.

That being said, the existing Penitencia Creek trail system in its present form provides a significant recreational opportunity. However, a number of reaches are made discontinuous by on-street crossings at Penitencia Creek Road, Capitol Avenue, Gilcrist Drive, and Jackson Avenue. The existing trail can be improved through a modest investment in signage that offers directional information and identifies the route as part of the Bay Ridge Trail. PRNS Staff is coordinating with DOT to develop and implement an on-street and trail signage system to

resolve the continuity issue. A grant is not being pursued for this effort because the deployment plan will be limited to a small number of signs.

Coyote Creek

Along the defined Bay Ridge Trail alignment's Coyote Creek segment, efforts are underway to plan or construct all reaches with the exception of Reach 2, from Story Road to Phelan Avenue. This segment was referenced in the 1991 Kelly Park Master Plan. Funding for development of park and adjacent landfill is available through the Safe Neighborhoods and Parks bond (November 2000). However, the bond funding approved by voters was specifically targeted to development of Happy Hollow Park and did not reference the creek trail.

Staff seeks to submit a grant request for up to \$370,000 along Coyote Creek that would fund the design of trail improvements and integration with the existing park design efforts. Completion of a trail design would complement efforts to the immediate north and south. The request is large in comparison to the grant program's budget, however staff believes that it can make compelling arguments for the project.

- A feasibility study is underway for the trail to the north, from Story Road to Highway 101. Council has recommended (January 27, 2004 Council Agenda) Proposition 40 funds to complete a master plan from Story Road to Montague Expressway.
- A bond-funded master plan is underway for the trail to the south, from Phelan Avenue to Los Lagos Golf Course. Construction funds are programmed as part of the bond.
- In two years, with master plans completed for segments to the north and south, staff will be in an advantageous position to seek grant funds for construction of a seven-mile segment of trail.
- The trail passes through a regional park facility that can serve to increase the number of potential users.
- The reach's relatively short distance (0.8 mile) requires a budget that is in line with the grant program's funding availability.
- The project's alignment is along City-owned property that is relatively flat and free of obstructions.
- Development of portions of the Coyote Creek Trail appear as a top priority for several of the City's SNI areas: Tully-Senter, University, Five Wounds/Brookwood Terrace, Spartan/Keyes and Thirteenth Street.
- The San Jose Redevelopment Agency has allocated \$1,150,000 to the Coyote Creek Trail project in FY 2004-2005; the grant would leverage that investment.

As the grant proposal is developed, staff will explore the feasibility of combining trail and park design activities in order to leverage existing funds and reduce the size of the grant request to be more competitive.

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PUBLIC OUTREACH

Designation of the preferred trail alignment along the east bank of the river occurred through the public outreach process as part of the 1991 Kelley Park Master Plan.

The Tully-Senter SNI area has ranked Coyote Creek trail development as number seven in its Top Ten priority list. The University SNI area has ranked the project as number three.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Manager's Budget Office and the City Attorney's Office.

COST IMPLICATIONS

No maintenance and operation costs are directly associated with the design effort proposed along Coyote Creek. However, the developed trail will be 0.8 mile in length and approximately \$12,000 will be required annually for custodial, preventative maintenance and capital expenditures.

Resources for park ranger staffing will be determined as part of the Kelley Park development. The trail will be monitored as part of the regional park facility so there are only indirect costs associated with security operations related to this trail segment.

CEQA

Not a project.

SARA L. HENSLEY
Director of Parks, Recreation
and Neighborhood Services